MAY 1992

GAYSPEAK

THE PIKES PEAK GAY/LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER

P.O. BOX 574 . COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80901 PHONE (719) 471-4429

showcase

PIKES PEAK METROPOLITAN

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church (PPMCC) is part of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). Churches such as MCC are found in most American cities, suburbs, and many rural areas, as well as in Canada, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Argentina, England, Indonesia, Denmark, Nigeria, Ireland, West Germany, Costa Rica, Mexico and other countries around the world.

Founded in August, 1979, PPMCC has been dedicated to meeting the spiritual needs of people in Colorado Springs -- with a specific outreach to gays and lesbians.
The church's primary objective is to show God's unconditional love and acceptance in a community that is often condemned and ostracized by today's religious pharisees. PPMCC's goals include preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, fighting for social justice, and establishing ministries to meet the needs of the Colorado Springs community. In addition to serving the Colorado Springs community, PPMCC is one of five MCC churches that minister to the Front Range cities.

Throughout the past thirteen years of existence, PPMCC has been involved in establishing a lesbian and gay presence within our community. Most recently, we co-sponsored the Community Congress and are playing an active role in the restructuring of the PPGLCC to help meet the needs of our community.

PPMCC's services are held every Sunday evening from 5:00 to 6:30 PM at the Unitarian Church 730 North Tejon. The service takes into account the wide variety of religious backgrounds. We encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to attend, and a nursery is provided for children.

Other church ministries include a biweekly Bible study, a study of homosexuality and the Bible, social activities, and fund raising activities. Another activity recently inaugurated is the "Thursday Night Live" coffee house, held at the church on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month in the church social hall. This special activity is for the entire community.

Through some recent, extensive fund raising, it is the goal of PPMCC to raise enough money to have its own church building by the time of their 15th anniversary, the summer of 1994.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the PPMCC, please feel free to call 634-3771, or in an emergency, call 391-0110.

HELP FIGHT
the
ANTI GAY INITIATIVE

****

To Participate:

EPOC Colorado
593-6015

Just Vote No!

Norma	635-4802
Greg	633-6383

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The first week of May is National Volunteers Week, and so I thought it would an appropriate time to recognize the very many people who are contributing their time and talent to the community center. Listed inside are the new board of directors, as well as the staffs for the Helpline, Gay-speak, and the Open Forum. Please express your appreciation to these people when you have a chance--without them, there wouldn't be a community center.

The center's reorganizational meeting was quite a success, by the way. Just look at that wonderful board of directors, with a couple more set to come on this month. This new board gives the center the broad community base it needs. As always, we really appreciate ideas from the membership. Please let us know what else the center can do for our community.

Introducing

Directors

Alan Cook	Marion Harrison
Bruce Coriell	Mark Merriman
Deb Contreras	Martin Meier
Dennis Lujan	Pam Jones
Jill Roberts	Regina Dipadova
John Mark Hild	Robin Miller
Margie Duncombe	

Officers

President	Robin Miller
Vice President	Martin Meier
Secretary	John Mark Hild
Treasurer	Jill Roberts

Open Forum Staff

Gary P.	Jack B.
Mark	Norma B.

Helpline Coordinators

Andrew Archuleta	Robert Ballew
Bruce Janzen	Scott S.
Diane Marchadie	Tami Gaylor, co-president
Jill Roberts	
Lisa Krauser	Tony Ortiz, co-president
Paul Clary	

Voice of the Helpline

Anne-Marie Jordan

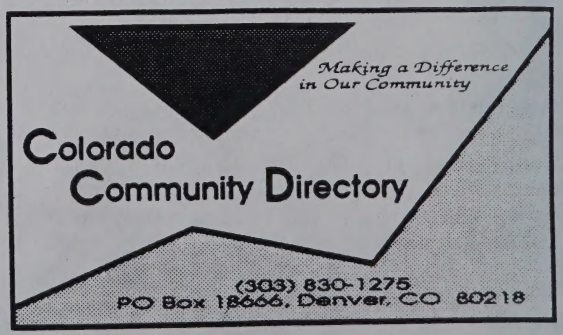
GaySpeak

Editor	Rod Fleming
Ass't Editor	Michelle Krystle
Calendar	Eric G.
Typesetting	Greg Varner

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION NEWS

City Source will soon have a listing for the Gay Community. It will have information about the organizations and support groups existing within our community. This could be an important new source for people to gain information about the support available in the gay community. The City Source number is 444-2567; the access code will be 616.

Martin Meier is working on other information and communication services including a computer information line. The availability of information and the communication of this information to individuals and groups is very important to the cohesiveness in the gay and lesbian community. Martin is in need of help to get this accomplished. Money and time are both needed. For more information, please call Martin Meier at 687-6335.



MEET SOME OF YOUR NEW PPGLCC BOARD MEMBERS

DEB CONTRERAS. I was asked to be on the Board of Directors for the PPGLCC for this year. I was flattered to be asked, beyond that I think it is a lot of hard work. I am interested in the self awareness and self esteem of our community. I would like to make a safe place for more people to be involved in community work. Not everything that needs to be done needs your name attached. Building a network of friends to be relied upon will make it safe for those who can go out into the world in our name.

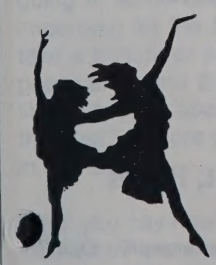
Deb Contreras
New Board Member

MARGARET DUNCOMBE. I hope the Center can become a focal point for Gay and Lesbian organizations and people in the Colorado Springs area (hub of a wheel imagery and that kind of stuff), and that in so doing, the Center can help our various constituencies become strong enough to effectively fight the right wing, so called Christian, bigots (my imagery around them is not printable).

Margaret Duncombe
New Board Member

JILL ROBERTS. As we watch the dawn of a new age and vision for the Community Center, I am glad I can help bring this project together. As treasurer, I hope my background in bookkeeping will help to restart us in a positive direction. If any one has fund raising ideas, please send them to me, c/o the Community Center.

Jill Roberts
Treasurer of the Board



Abaton Books

"a woman's perspective"

Tuesday - Saturday
10:30 am - 6:00 pm
2525 W. Pikes Peak - C
Colorado Springs, CO
(719) 475-2508

JOHN MARK HILD. My desire for the Community Center is to build a strong, positive base from which all our groups and organizations can draw. The Center is for the entire community and I would like to see more people involved and supportive of our Center. We have many ways in which you can be of service to the community, by working with the Helpline, giving a topic for our 3rd Thursday Open Forum, or just supporting the Center by being a member. I can't list everything but I am sure that any of the people serving you on the board can help get you involved with the Center. The Center will only be limited by not getting the help and imagination of those who can share, with all of us, their goals for the future of the Gay and Lesbian community in Colorado Springs. Don't forget that *GaySpeak* is a newsletter for, and about, your community, and needs you to let us know what is going on so that others can receive that information.

John Mark Hild
Secretary of the Board

COMMUNITY CENTER
Membership Application

Join the PPGL Community Center to:

Receive *GaySpeak* each month, with its new calendar listing all community events.

Get the membership discount for all Center functions

To support the Helpline

To help build our community in Colorado Springs and the surrounding region

To support the Center's officers and staff

Cost of an annual membership is only $6 for an individual, or $10 for a household.

NAME:
STREET:
CITY & ZIP:
TELEPHONE:

Mail to:
Pikes Peak Gay/Lesbian Community Center
P.O. Box 574
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

ATTENTION PC USERS

One of the best kept secrets in the community is a gay forum bulletin board system (BBS). For those of you who don't know what that is, it's a computer socializing system. If you have access to a computer with a modem, you can become a member of Lambda Network.

Lambda Network supports multi-user teleconferencing, which allows live "talk" between several users at once (most bulletin boards have a single telephone line, requiring members to leave messages for each other instead of carrying on conversations). The board also supports electronic mail, Special Information Groups (SIGs), games, gay graphics files, and information regarding the gay community's interests and software sharing. The multiple line setup also means a minimum of busy signals when you are trying to connect.

The BBS is currently expanding its services by adding a computerized matchmaking program (Hyperdate), and eventually gay echo mail. Echo mail is an information and mail exchange with users around the country.

While membership can be as low as $6.50, you can check out the system without charge or obligation. Set your PC to call Lambda Network (598-1379) with all parameters set to most normal defaults (-2400, none, 8, 1). You can move around the system to see what's offered and how things work; you can read the profiles on the the 150+ members and get information about rates and billing. When you call, you will be asked to fill out a biographical information page, so be prepared with your vital statistics, including favorite TV shows, movies, foods, hobbies, etc., and a nickname that you would like to use from now on. You will be asked to give your real name and address, but this information is kept confidential. The biographical information is available for you to edit at any time.

Once you are verified by the Sysop (Systems Operator) you will have full access to the system 24 hours a day. You will remain known only by your chosen nick-name, and therefore anonymous, unless you choose to identify yourself. In addition to cameraderie among like minded individuals, several get togethers have been highly successful in letting everyone put names with faces.

Friday Night, Saturday Noon
21st Street Bingo
1102 South 21st Street

Friday Niters BINGO

Every Friday 7:00 pm
$1500 in Prizes

Noonday BINGO

Every Saturday Noon
$1500 in Prizes

Fun, Entertainment, Prizes

Hosted By The Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church

FROM THE EDITOR

I have just come home from one of our local watering holes, where I began to think of the way life has changed since I first went out to this same bar some enty five years ago. I remember my concerns way back then, most of which involved image and status. Admittedly, I was a bit shallow back in the "Good Old Days." Today I am different. Today the world I live in is very different. I know too many people fighting to stay alive one more day. I know too many people living life to its fullest, not only for themselves, but for those around them. I have learned that life is precious, and the quality of life, for everyone, is the highest goal for any community to pursue. Any one thing you can do as an individual, or any one thing we can do as a group, that can make life better or more meaningful, is worth all the effort that can be put forth.

We need, as individuals and a community, to strive for a more complete way of life. Not only for ourselves, but for everyone around us. This sort of thinking includes not only sweeping issues like the impending anti-homosexual initiative, but also personal touches like helping a friend in need. When we are faced with the larger issues of the world, we must not forget the smaller ideals that help life go on.

At the first gathering of the new Center board, I could not help but sense this same feeling of concern from all the people present. They were all very intent about the larger issues, but they all showed a concern for the individual and their problems. While each person in the room had his or her own concerns and priorities, everyone was open to the concerns of the others present. I think the Center can go far with these people at the helm, but they cannot do it alone.

This is a time for change in our city. This is a time for change in our Center. Your help is needed; your ideas are welcome. The Center is changing and going in some new directions. Your input is very important; let the board know your ideas. Please take a minute or two to put your thoughts down on paper and send them to the Center. What do you like or not like about the way the Center has run in the past? Where do you feel the Center should go in the future?

What you say now will effect the future of this organization. Please send your comments to PPGLCC, P.O. Box 574, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

PRIDE WEEK!!!!

The community center is sponsoring Pride Week this year. Although dates are still being confirmed, we're tentatively planning on the week of Monday, June 15, with events culminating in our Second Annual Pride Parade on Saturday or Sunday, the 20th or 21st. (This will be the weekend before Denver's parade on Sunday, June 28.) Pride Week will also include the First Annual Community Awards Evening, in which our community will honor those who have served us well. Dennis Lujan is chairing the effort; please call him at 578-8072 to volunteer.

Yvonne
of
Miran's
a salon

Antlers Hotel Plaza
60 S. Cascade
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
(719) 577-4441

THURSDAY NITE LIVE!

This get together continues on the second and fourth Thursday, May 14 and 28, from 6:30-10:00 p.m. It's an evening to have dinner and socialize with other members of our community. The 14th will be potluck, while food will be provided on the 28th. Come early for dinner, or later for conversation and games. Sponsored by the Metropolitan Community Church; call 391-0110 for more information.

We Appreciate Our Advertisers. Please Support Them!

Advertising Rates

Business Card	$ 5.00
1/8 page	10.00
1/4 page	15.00
1/2 page	20.00
Full page (except back)	30.00
Back page	35.00

These rates are for camera ready copy.

We request all ads be pre paid
to eliminate billing costs.

REPLIES TO ANN LANDERS

Ann Landers asked recently, "Are you glad you are gay, or would you rather be straight?" As you would imagine there were thousands (75,875) of responses, and the yeses were ahead by a 30-to-1 margin. Here, just because they are interesting, are some of those replies. They were printed in Ann Landers' column on April 26 and 27, 1992.

CHICAGO: We have four children. One of our sons is gay. He is the brightest and most sensitive, caring and thoughtful of the four. We often wondered if being gay made the difference and have concluded that it did.

LOUISVILLE: Yes, Ann, I'm glad I'm gay. Thank you for asking. But being gay is a very small part of who I am. I'm a teacher and a football coach. I play classical music and a good game of tennis. I'm a gourmet cook. I can ski and I can sew. I am active in my church and a volunteer at our local shelter for the homeless. I don't believe in labels. Let's just say I am human.

HELPLINE

What is the Helpline? The Helpline is your access to the community. The Helpline staff can let you know when events are scheduled, what businesses have shown their support for the community, where the bars are, and just about anything else you need to know. Call during staffed hours (6-9 PM, Monday-Friday and 3-5 PM on Saturday) to reach a volunteer directly. During other hours, call to leave a message or to listen to the Helpline's recorded calendar of events, which is updated every Sunday. Let us know how you like the calendar message; we hope it will really improve communication within the community.

DENVER: I've known since I was 4 that I was "different." After a few years of therapy for depression and anxiety attacks, I accepted the fact that I'm a lesbian. If I could take a pill that would make me straight, I wouldn't do it. I love the sensitivity and honesty that women have and men lack. Actually, the worst part of being gay is the prejudice and hatred we encounter from supposedly "Christian" people.

LEXINGTON: Am I glad I'm gay? My response is an unqualified YES. It's thrilling to know that there are people out there who would happily kill me because of my sexual orientation. I am delighted that the government discriminates against me at tax time and I can't file jointly. I'm ecstatic that I'm barred from serving my country in time of war. I'm overjoyed that all major religions reject my lifestyle. I love it that I could lose my job if the truth were known. Best of all, it's great to be viewed as an outcast by one's own family. This is what it means to be gay.

ROYAL OAK: Yes, I'm gay, now 73 years old, and its' been a difficult life. I knew that being gay was beyond my control from the beginning. I prayed about it and finally accepted it. I figured if God made me this way he must have had a reason. I never felt comfortable with a woman. It was impossible to think of a woman in a sexual way. I tried a few times when I was in the army during World War II and just couldn't So when they now way it's in our genes, I know it's the truth. I'm glad I'm not married because I wouldn't want to bring a son into the world who might have to struggle as I have.

FROM ANN LANDERS: It is my firm conviction that homosexuality is NOT learned behavior, it is genetic. It can be suppressed but not altered.

New Arrivals

A NEW BAR IN TOWN

PPGLCC would like to wish Tim Talent and W.W. Walker the best of luck in their new bar. "The Penthouse" at 1715 North Academy Blvd. opened as a gay bar on Friday, April 24. The new owners have some neat ideas coming up. So get on out to the East Side to see Tim and W.W. The phone number is 597-3314.

GAYSPEAK EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY 1992

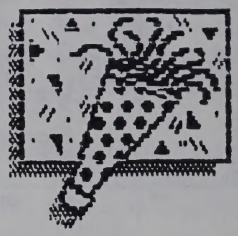
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					GLAA–8:00 1	GALAUCCS– 6:00 2
MCC–5:00 3	GLAA–8:00 GLASG–5:30 4	BGLACC–6:30 5	OTA–7:00 6	CMI–7:30 MRG–7:30 7	GLAA–8:00 8	LCC–10:30AM POTLUCK "PHRANC" Concert 8:00 PM Packard Hall 9
MCC–5:00 10	GLAA–8:00 GLASG–5:30 JVN–7:00 11	BGLACC–6:30 GIC–7:30 12	OTA–7:00 PFLAG–6:30 13	CMI–7:30 MRG–7:30 Thursday Night Live potluck (391.0110) 14	GLAA–8:00 Newcomers Party 5–9PM 1823 West Bijou 15	PPGLCC BOARD MTG – 9:30AM 16
MCC–5:00 17	GLAA–8:00 GLASG–5:30 18	BGLACC–6:30 19	OTA–7:00 20	CMI–7:30 MRG–7:30 PPGLCC OPEN Forum – 7:00 21	GLAA–8:00 22	23
MCC–5:00 24	GLAA–8:00 GLASG–5:30 JVN–7:00 25	BGLACC–6:30 GIC–7:30 26	OTA–7:00 27	CMI–7:30 MRG–7:30 28	GLAA–8:00 29	30
MCC–5:00 31	GLAA–8:00 GLASG–5:30 June 1	BGLACC–6:30 2	OTA–7:00 PFLAG–6:30 3	CMI–7:30 MRG–7:30 4	GLAA–8:00 5	6

June

CGRA –Colorado Gay Rodeo Association
BGLACC –Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Alliance: Colo. College
CMI –Count Me In: Meting Location moves
GIC –Gender Identity Center: Meetings @ H & S
GLAA –Gay & Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous
GLASG –Gay & Lesbian Adolescent Support Group
The Group –The Group: Gay Educators Pot Luck Social
JVN –Just Vote No (Greg 633.6383)
LCC –Lesbians Choosing Children
MCC –Metropolitan Community Church
MRG –Men's Rap Group
NP –New Phazes
OTA –One To Another
PFLAG –Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays

Please call phone contacts listed elsewhere in this issue of Gayspeak, or the helpline, for locations of meetings listed in this calendar.

Tired of the same old *Drag?*



Then join us at the new place in town...

PENTHOUSE BAR

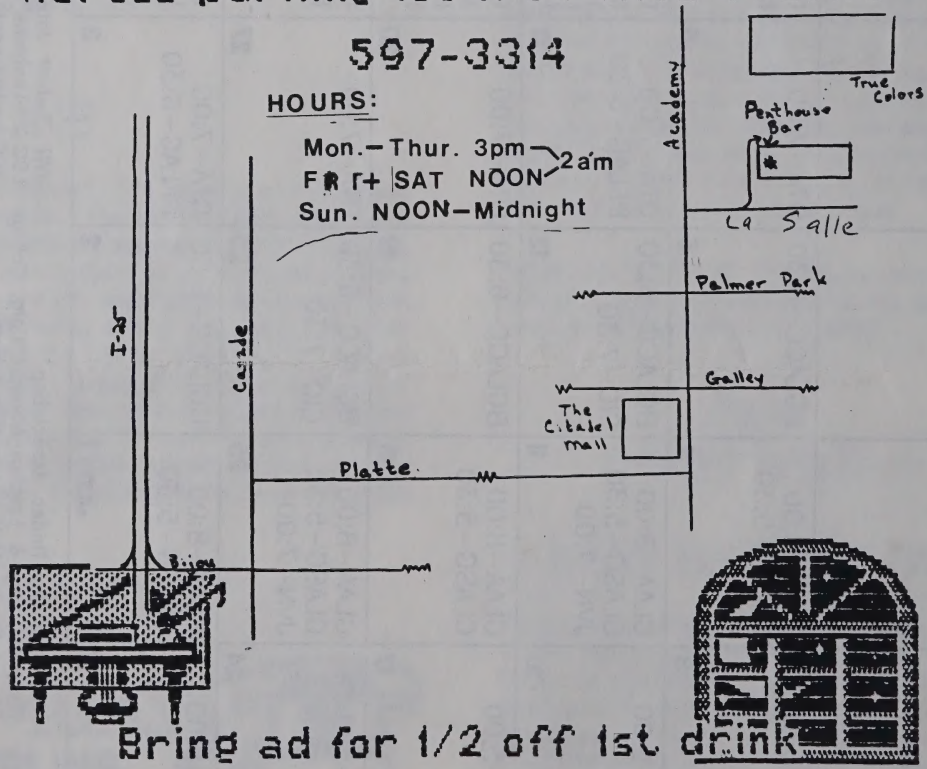
1715 N. Academy Blvd.

Across parking lot from TRUE COLORS

597-3314

HOURS:

Mon.–Thur. 3pm–2am
Fri+SAT NOON–2am
Sun. NOON–Midnight



Bring ad for 1/2 off 1st drink